

Project Abstract

Iowa will use the State Innovation Model (SIM) Testing grant to implement and evaluate a sustainable health care delivery and payment system that will improve population health, improve patient care, and reduce health care costs. Through the SIM design, the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise established a leadership role in planning statewide models of service delivery and payment; additional funds available through the SIM test are necessary to continue the partnerships, accelerate changes already underway, and ensure a robust transformation in Iowa.

Iowa's goals are: First, transform health care delivery by expanding the ACO model and primary care provider assignments to cover the entire Medicaid population; align with other payers using standard measurement systems and quality ratings; and support the delivery system through technical assistance, community care teams, and more integrated use of health information technology and health information exchange. Secondly, to improve population health through community integration efforts focused on social determinants of health; tools to better engage and incentivize patients; and facilitating public/private partnerships for education and outreach. Iowa will demonstrate that a greater focus on the social determinant roots will accelerate transformation of healthcare and significantly improve outcomes, especially among Medicaid populations. Finally, Iowa will decrease per capita health care spending by monitoring both value and total cost of care; identifying specific populations that need additional interventions and care management; align public and private payers; track patient outcomes; and conduct rapid cycle evaluation and improvements. Combined, these efforts support a larger public value through greater transparency and access to data on costs and quality in the healthcare system, generate information that will drive competition, and create system-wide transformation delivering improvement and driving value throughout the healthcare marketplace. The budget request for the Model Testing Grant is \$43 million. Projected total cost of care savings is \$72MM (federal funds). We anticipate that all Iowans will benefit from these programs.

Multiple payers will be involved in the testing grant activities throughout the course of the project, including Medicaid, Medicare, and private payers. Partner organizations include key state agencies, commercial health plans, ACOs, behavioral health, large health care systems, and academic institutions. Iowa provider organizations have already demonstrated a commitment to this effort and a willingness to treat Medicaid patients within the proposed service delivery and payment models, as seen in the overwhelming response to provide access to the new Iowa Health and Wellness Plan population, and the continued interest and support of SIM initiatives. Iowa will use the funds to continue stakeholder engagement through implementation and evaluation phases; fund practice transformation technical assistance and tools to evaluate and address the social determinants of health; fund community transformation grants for infrastructure and linkages to integrate public health and promote individual healthy lifestyles; provide additional support for HIT adoption and connectivity; fund data collection; and conduct both rapid cycle and comprehensive evaluations.